

Locally Equivalent Weights for Bayesian MrP

Ryan Giordano, Alice Cima, Erin Hartman, Jared Murray, Avi Feller

UT Austin Statistics Seminar

September 2025



Real Data: Marital Name Change Survey

Analysis of changing names after marriage (based on Alexander (2019)).

- **Target population:** ACS survey of US population 2017–2022¹
- **Survey population:** Marital Name Change Survey²
- **Respose:** Did the female partner keep their name after marriage?
- For regressors, use bins of age, education, state, and decade married.

Survey observations: $N_S = 4,364$

Target observations (rows): $N_T = 4,085,282$

Uncorrected survey mean: $\frac{1}{N_S} \sum_{i=1}^{N_S} y_i = 0.462$

Raking: $\hat{\mu}_{CW} = 0.263$

MrP: $\hat{\mu}_{MrP} = 0.288$ (Post. sd = 0.0169)

¹Ruggles et al. 2024.

²Cohen 2019.

Covariate balance for primary effects

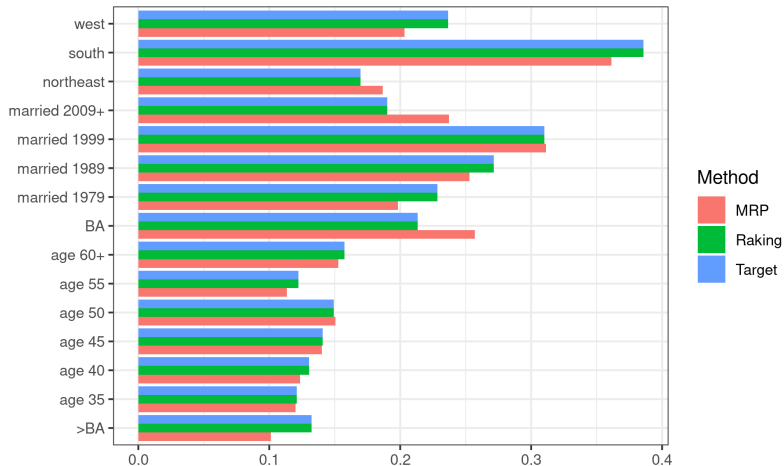


Figure 1: Imbalance plot for primary effects

Covariate balance for interaction effects

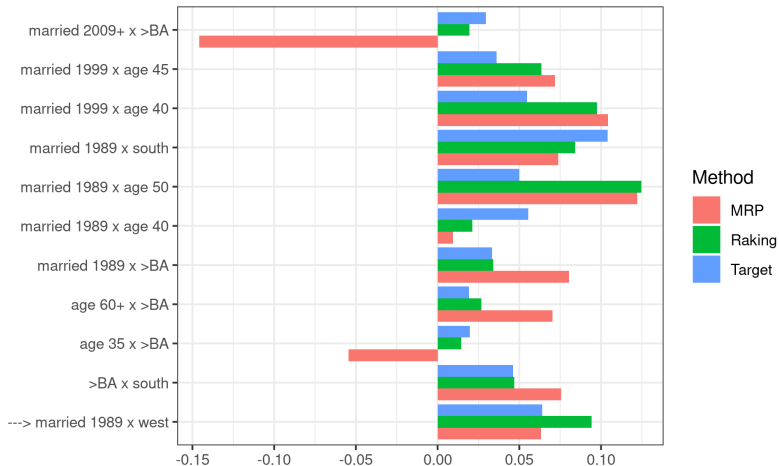


Figure 2: Imbalance plot for select interaction effects

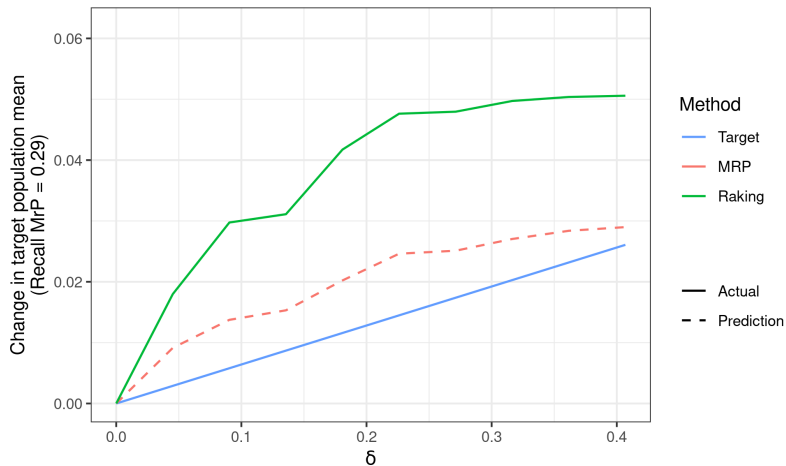


Figure 3: Predictions for the name change dataset

Predictions and actual MCMC results

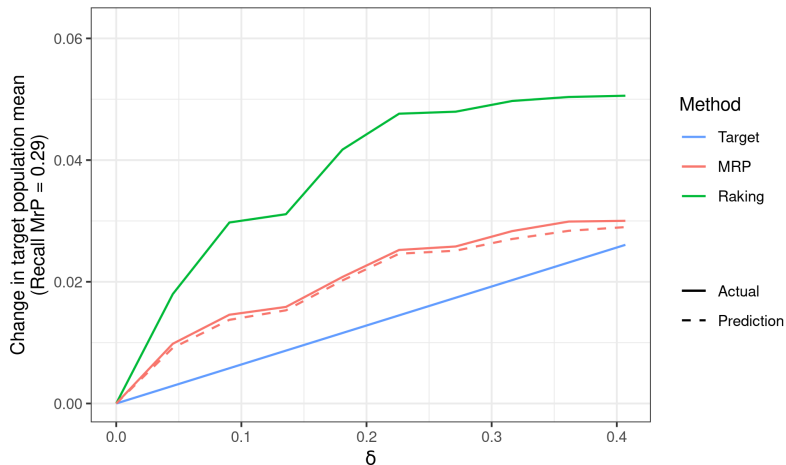


Figure 4: Predictions and refit for the name change dataset

Running ten MCMC refits: 28 hours Computing approximate weights: 27 seconds

Analysis of national support for gay marriage.³

- **Target population:** US Census Public Use Microdata Sample 2000
- **Survey population:** Combined national-level polls from 2004
- **Response:** “Do you favor allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?”
- For regressors, use race, gender, age, education, state, region, and continuous statewide religion and political characteristics, including some analyst–selected interactions.

Survey observations: $N_S = 4,364$

Target observations (rows): $N_T = 4,085,282$

Uncorrected survey mean: $\frac{1}{N_S} \sum_{i=1}^{N_S} y_i = 0.462$

Raking: $\hat{\mu}_{CW} = 0.263$

MrP: $\hat{\mu}_{MrP} = 0.288$ (Post. sd = 0.0169)

³Based on Kastellec, Lax, and Phillips (2010), see also Lax and Phillips (2009).

References



Alexander, M. (2019). *Analyzing name changes after marriage using a non-representative survey*. URL: <https://www.monicaalexander.com/posts/2019-08-07-mrp/>.



Cohen, P. (Apr. 2019). *Marital Name Change Survey*. DOI: 10.17605/OSF.IO/UZQDN. URL: osf.io/uzqdn.



Kastellec, J., J. Lax, and J. Phillips (2010). “Estimating state public opinion with multi-level regression and poststratification using R”. In: *Unpublished manuscript, Princeton University* 29.3.



Lax, J. and J. Phillips (2009). “Gay rights in the states: Public opinion and policy responsiveness”. In: *American Political Science Review* 103.3, pp. 367–386.



Ruggles, S. et al. (2024). *IPUMS USA: Version 15.0 [dataset]*. DOI: 10.18128/D010.V15.0. URL: <https://usa.ipums.org>.